

REFLECTIONS.

As I read in God's Word this beautiful morning, I find the subject before me that God says in his Word that "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof." Dear reader of the EVANGELIST, or to whom this may concern, what are we doing with God's rights? Some of us say we have much land, we have great stock of fine cattle, sheep, hogs and everything that can be raised on the earth. Do we know that those things are God's, and are we thankful to God for them, and do we know we are God's children if we use the earth and its fulness thereof to the honor of God? Oh, when I look back to the time when I was out in this world of sin and see how the people strive to gain so much of the world's riches. I was one of them like many are doing to-day, and they will do till God comes to call his own children home to that heavenly land. But, I say this much when God came to me in such a miraculous way, I gave up the earth and its fulness thereof, to God who richly gives us all things. Praise his holy name!

The miraculous love of God seeks to save souls, sends God's children to seek after those who are gaining so much of God's earthly provisions and never take time to render God thanks. All they care for is God's earth and its fulness thereof. And if a child of God comes to see them and take dinner with them, they will say, "you render thanks to God, as we have so many earthly things to see after we don't follow that kind of work." Poor blind humanity using God's property for the pride of earthly things, fulfilling their lust thereof. Oh, God! may they render the things to Cæsar that are Cæsar's and the things to God that are God's.

We notice the majority of rich people, they think the reason poor people work for God is because they have lost their earthly hope of gain in this world's goods, and that they are going crazy and talking for God and claiming they don't know any more about God than the vilest sinner. Thank God he is no respecter of persons, and man, poor or rich in this world's goods can have a right to the tree of life and enter in through the pearly gate of heaven, if

he takes God at his word and is born of the water and of the spirit of God, and keeps God's commandments. Heaven is his home. Glory to God! Praise his holy name.

The devil tried to make me believe I was going crazy on religion or on the loss of property this home of earth. Those personal devils exist on this earth as they did when Judas, the betrayer of Christ, was on the earth. They are trying to crucify God's children by lying. Praise God for life eternal.

"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof. Praise the Lord! oh, my soul."

Christ never intended we should give all our property to become a child of God. No, he wants our love and desire for him, and trust God and he will supply us with what things of earth we need. "Seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

When God poured out his wondrous love on me, I found I had nothing in this world, though I toiled, hoed, and raked this earth, and it was not mine it all belongs to God, I only have a life lease. All belongs to God. "Take me, make me pure within."

It is true we all have our farms, nice homes of this earth, to live on, at least most of us do. We have our losses and gains some of us have more than others. God keeps us pruned for his kingdom; but God has found me with a good home on his earth, plenty to eat, drink and wear, and we, my husband and myself, have a farm. Praise God, for a clear title to a home on earth and a home in heaven. "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof." "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Your sister in Christ.

MATILDA SHROCK.

THE PROGRESS OF CIVILIZATION.

Some one has written up a dialogue between the years as follows:

1594—What have those men in their mouths?

1894—Tobacco. We have special rooms for its use in public places.

1594—A kind of medicine? Many using it look pale and nervous.

1894—O, no. Instead, it's a delight-

ful poison. It kills many, injures more; but some it doesn't seem to hurt.

1594—Probably it takes the place of the liquors we used.

1894—No; it gives an appetite for them.

1594—Do children use it?

1894—Fathers are seldom willing to let children under three years use it for themselves, although they often breathe the poisonous smoke from the day of their birth.

1594—Is the smell ever offensive?

1894—Any one with good manners says, "I do not mind the smell," even if it sickens him.

1594—Is it not rather dirty?

1894—By using spittoons and being very careful the user can keep himself pretty clean, except his breath and clothes and hair.

1594—Is it cheap?

1894—O dear, no!

1594—Do only rich people use it?

1894—O, no. It is one of the luxuries of the rich and necessities of the poor. Tobacco first, bread next.

1594—Of course Christians don't use it?

1894—Well—

Find your niche, and fill it. If it be ever so little, if it is only to be a hewer of wood or drawer of water, do something in this great battle for God and truth.

Hold fast to love. If men wound your heart, let them not sour or embitter it; let them not shut up or narrow it; let them only expand it more and more, and be always able to say, with St. Paul, "My heart is enlarged." —F. W. Robertson.

The most essential qualifications for the Gospel ministry is to be "filled with the Holy Spirit" day by day, to know Christ as one's indwelling Life, to be led by the Spirit in the delivery of every message from God: This is the supreme qualification without which the most profound and varied learning, the most perfect culture and supreme tact, will prove of but comparatively little value. When Christ came into the Apostle, and had entire possession of him, He turned even Paul's learning to good account.—*Gospel Witness*.